

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 03809 241544Z

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ACTION AGR-20

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6614

LIMITED OFFICIAL UBE BUENOS AIRES 3809

PASS USDA/FAS

FOR RICHARD GOODMAN FROM AGATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJ: WORLD FERTILIZER STUDY DATA FOR ARGENTINA

REF: TOFAS 61

1. FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT SOURCES IN DEVELOPING REMAINING QUESTIONNAIRES REVEALED THAT PORTION OF DATA FOR 1972/73 ONWARD, PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED IN REFTTEL, WERE GROSSLY OVER-ESTIMATED BY INDUSTRY, THE ONLY SOURCE FOR THESE STATISTICS (FERTILIZER COMMISSION ONLY RECENTLY FORMED). IN EFFORT TO OBTAIN MORE GOA FINANCING FOR EXPANDING FERTILIZER PLANT CAPACITY, INDUSTRY USED AMBITIOUS GOA PRODUCTION GOALS TO JUSTIFY INFLATED CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR 1972/73 ONWARD, ESPECIALLY FOR 1979/80 PROJECTIONS. REALIZING URGENT NEED FOR DATA IN FIRST THREE QUESTIONNAIRES, REVISIONS BEING FORWARDED PRIOR TO REMAINING TABLES. FINAL QUESTIONNAIRES TO FOLLOW TODAY VIA TOFAS.

2. AN INCREASE IN FERTILIZER CONSUMPTION ON THE ORDER IMPLIED IN DATA PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED IS NOT ALTOGETHER IMPROBABLE. OTHER SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE EXPANDED FERTILIZER UTILIZATION IN AN EVEN FASTER PACE. IN ABSOLUTE
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 03809 241544Z

TERMS THIS EXPANSION REPRESENTS A RELATIVELY SMALL INCREASE

IN PER HECTARE APPLICATION. NEVERTHELESS, NEW DATA FOR
1972/73 THROUGH 1979/80 PERIOD IN FOLLOWING TABLES ARE
MORE REALISTIC IN VIEW OF PRESENT GOA PRICING POLICIES
AND PRESENT PRODUCER ATTITUDES REGARDING FERTILIZER APPLICATION.
INFORMATION SUBMITTED FOR PERIOD PRIOR TO 1972/73 CHECKED FOR
ACCURACY BY ANALYZING MONTHLY IMPORTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
IN CENSUS RUNS AND NO REVISIONS NECESSARY FOR THESE YEARS.
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BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

QUESTIONNAIRE I. (REVISED). NITROGEN FERTILIZER DATAM

(A. YEAR; B. CONSUMPTION; C. PRODUCTION; D. IMPORTS; E.
BEG. STOCKS; F. PRODUCTION CAPACITY; G. INDUST. USAGE).

A. B. C. D. E. F. G.

1972/73	87	83	4	14	10541
72/74	99	90	9	14	105 44
74/75	107	98	9	14	120 50
75/76	118	107	11	14	125 56
79/80	151	141	10	14	170 81

QUESTIONNAIRES II (REVISED). PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER DATA.

1972/73	25	4	50	17	4
73/74	15	5	18	46	5
74/75	43	5	16	54	5
75/76	47	10	35	32	10
79/80	62	20	47	35	20

QUESTIONNAIRE III (REVISED). POTASSIUM FERTIZLIER DATA.

1972/73	8	3	6	9	4
73/74	9	4	6	10	4
74/75	10	4	7	11	4
75/76	11	5	6	12	5
79/80	13	5	12	10	5

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PAGE 03 BUENOS 03809 241544Z

END UNCLASSIFIED.
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